

INFORMATIVE REPORT

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COUNTRY Italy

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SUBJECT Opposition of Dissident Communists in Turin to the Policy of the Directorate of the Partito Comunista Italiano (PCI)

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SUPPLEMENT TO

1. During recent months overt opposition has become apparent against the policy of the PCI executives, and in particular, that of Palmiro Togliatti. For example, the following accusations were recently made by PCI elements in Turin:

- a. That no attempts were made to carry out a coup d'etat after the downfall of the Republic of Salò (Mussolini's Italian Social Republic);
- b. That the PCI deviated from the Marxian-Leninist tenets by being solely concerned in winning the elections, and that such a deviation was not favorable to Communism, but to the adversary parties; and
- c. That too many Fascists and members of the bourgeoisie have been admitted within the PCI thus depriving it of any chance to carry out revolutionary movements.

2. To remedy these errors, the following suggestions were made by the dissident PCI elements in Turin:

- a. To strengthen to the maximum the paramilitary organization of the Party;
- b. To embarrass the present government with all means available such as strikes, sabotage actions, etc., so as to force the government to commit some irreparable blunder;
- c. To conduct active propaganda through the Communist cells, in order to convince all wavering comrades that true Communists are only those who, when the occasion arises, are prepared to fight to the bitter end;
- d. To carry out a thorough epuration among the present membership of the PCI; and
- e.

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- e. To place authentic proletarians in directive positions which are currently occupied by too many intellectuals (this view was upheld by Pietro Secchia at the recent National Congress, in spite of his well-known tact in criticizing Togliatti's policy).
3. Further dissatisfaction is also reported among the many dissident Communists in Turin, especially among the employees of the Municipal Tramway System, the members of the Communist branch section at Rivoli, and the "Barriera di Francia" group, with headquarters in Via Rosolino, Pilo, Turin.
4. Among them is a student, Leopoldo Oggerino, who is one of the most outspoken critics of the present PCI policy. He is reported to be very intelligent and active and has a considerable following among members of the Turin Communist Federation and the Via Rosolino, Pilo Group, to which he belongs. Oggerino's views are summarized as follows: "Togliatti's policy has proved a complete failure and we should oust him for the sake of the prestige of the Party. It was he who made the alliance with the bourgeoisie and who inflicted many humiliations on the Communist Party, the worst of all being the approval of the Concordat with the Vatican. We should, once and for all, abandon the puerile tactics adopted so far. We must not be afraid to speak of dictatorship, since it is the dictatorship and the suppression of the parliamentary regime at which we are aiming. To all those who say that Russia is following an imperialistic policy, we must answer that in Italy there are many true Communists who know perfectly well that Communism can assert itself throughout the world only by supporting Russia's imperialistic aspirations and the aspirations of Yugoslavia, had the latter country not adopted an anti-Cominform attitude. However, we hope that the present disagreement between Yugoslavia and the Cominform will soon be ended and that we shall be able to rely on Tito's army for the invasion of Italy and the consequent establishment of a Communist regime in the country".
5. It is also reported that Oggerino has stated that some months ago a group of Communists in Turin had openly declared their dissatisfaction with the present policy of PCI leaders, but had been silenced due to the intervention of Mario Montagnana. Oggerino also revealed that a bitter fight was taking place between members of the Turin Communist Federation and the editorial staff of the Turin L'Unita.

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